

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-04 NIC-01 SAJ-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /071 W

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R 260700Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5844

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1329

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GB, CH

SUBJ: PRESIDENT BONGO'S COMMENTS ON HIS TRIP TO CHINA

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT BONGO, HE INDICATED THAT HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH WHAT HE HAD SEEN IN CHINA. HE REITERATED HIS PUBLIC COMMENTS CONCERNING HOW HARD THE CHINESE PEOPLE WORKED AND THEIR SENSE OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. WITH REGARD TO MAO TSE-TUNG, BONGO SAID THAT WHILE HE HAD FOUND HIM TO BE OBVIOUSLY AN AGED MAN, HE WAS IMPRESSED WITH MAO'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE AFRICAN SCENE. MAO SEEMED TO KNOW THE NAMES OF ALL THE AFRICAN LEADERS AND MADE VERY PERTINENT REMARKS (ALBEIT POLITE ONES) ABOUT MANY OF THEM WHICH INDICATED THAT HE HAD AN EXCELLENT GRASP OF AFRICAN AS WELL AS WORLD AFFAIRS. BONGO SAID THAT MAO JOKINGLY REFERRED TO HIS OWN VARIOUS COLLABORATORS AS BEING IN ONE CASE PRO-FRENCH, IN ANOTHER PRO-AMERICAN AND SO FORTH. WITH REGARD TO CHOU EN-LAI, BONGO SAID THAT HE FOUND HIM IN SEEMINGLY GOOD HEALTH BUT GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT A STRUGGLE WAS LOOMING BETWEEN CHOU EN-LAI AND THE MILITARY, THE OUTCOME OF WHICH WOULD DEPEND A GREAT

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DEAL ON CHOU'S HEALTH. BONGO WAS QUITE VAGUE

WITH REGARD TO ANY ECONOMIC BENEFITS GABON EXPECTED TO  
DERIVE FROM THE PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO CHINA.  
MCKESSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** shawdg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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